

HAMMERMILL PAPER COMPANY

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RICHARD W. BROWN
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

November 18, 1968

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Wayne C. Bellaman
Regional Sanitary Engineer
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Human Services Region VI
996 South Main Street
Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

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REGIONAL OFFICE

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Dear Wayne:

In your letter of October 15, 1968 you requested that we inform you of our plans for deep well No. 2 prior to December 1, 1968. This letter will detail the program planned and under way on No. 2.

The program to convert the Erie pulp mill to Neutracel II and install treatment facilities, including the deep water dispersal line, will solve our pollution problem and eliminate the need for the deep wells. When this program is in full operation, the deep wells will be discontinued and abandoned after sealing according to the proper techniques. This is expected to take place in the second half of 1971.

In view of the relatively short remaining life for the wells under this program, we have decided to place deep well No. 2 in a stand-by position rather than to complete the renovation so that it can be used for disposal of spent liquor. This involves cementing the injection formation at No. 2 well and will permit recompleting the well if needed in the next 2½ years.

We feel this step is justified and supported by the following facts:

1. Deep well No. 1 is equipped with two pumps with a capacity of 188 gallons per minute each. Deep well No. 3 is serviced by three pumps, each with a capacity of 276 gallons per minute. The total installed pumping capacity is 1,200 gallons per minute. The amount of spent liquor to be injected amounts to 350-400 gallons per minute. Thus, there is adequate capacity in the existing system.

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2. The improved construction and materials used on No. 1 and No. 3 preclude failures such as were experienced this spring on No. 1. The main improvements are the use of Fiberglas for the injection tubing, which is corrosion resistant and the technique of cementing the tubing into the well casing.

3. The technique adapted for putting No. 2 in a stand-by position eliminates the necessity of disposing of a backflow of liquor which would occur if we attempted to put the well back into service. This backflow would have to be discharged to the lake.

4. If necessary, it would be possible to put No. 2 well back into service. This would involve procuring and running a string of Fiberglas injection tubing which would be cemented back to the surface. The plug would have to be drilled out and the formation opened up by perforation and acidizing. It is believed this could be accomplished in a period of several weeks.

In view of the facts enumerated above, we are proceeding to secure No. 2 well and put it in a stand-by position. Six hundred sacks of cement have been squeezed into the injection formation in order to prevent backflow. After successfully sealing the well we removed all the corroded 5" injection tubing in the upper part of the well. The cement was encountered at a depth of 780 feet. Drilling was continued through solid cement to 900 feet. The cement cores were found to be free of metal. We conclude that the rest of the hole down to the injection formation is filled with cement.

Drilling has been stopped and the well flushed out with fresh water. Oil will be placed on top of the water and the well head valve closed. The well will remain in this stand-by condition until it is either completely abandoned or put back into service if this becomes necessary.

This procedure has been reviewed with Mr. Charles Songer, Oil and Gas Inspector of the Oil and Gas Division of the Department of Mines and Mineral Industries, Pittsfield, Pennsylvania. He has indicated complete satisfaction that the well is in a secure condition.

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It is expected that this work will be completed by December 1, 1968.

As a part of the installation of No. 3 deep well, a 2" plastic pipeline has been run from the pumphouse to the vicinity of Motsch Run. Any spills or leaks in the pumphouse are collected in a sump and discharged through this line so that there is no longer any chance of accidental discharge into Cemetery Run.

If there are any questions on the program outlined above, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Richard W. Brown

RWB/jms

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